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Date: December 9, 2005 **DDES-BQA 05-014**
To: Nursing Homes **NH 09**
From: Otis Wood, Bureau of Quality Assurance - Director

Wisconsin Coalition for Person-Directed Care

The purpose of this memo is to announce that the Bureau of Quality Assurance (BQA) supports the Wisconsin Coalition for Person-Directed Care. Information will be forthcoming identifying details on the Coalition's initiatives. This will include, a definition of person-directed care, those involved in the Coalition and BQA contacts for those considering implementing innovative person-directed care programs.

Background Information: On June 8-9, 2005, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Rhode Island Quality Improvement Organization's project on culture change sponsored a conference called the St. Louis Accord. Representatives of CMS, state survey agencies, state Quality Improvement Organizations (QIOs), ombudsman and provider, and consumer groups from almost all fifty states, including Wisconsin, attended the Accord.

The purpose of the conference was to nationally promote the implementation and wide-spread adoption of the person-directed care culture in nursing homes. During the conference, national experts and representatives of CMS articulated their support of this initiative. CMS presented each state Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) and BQA with a CMS-produced video that endorsed the person-directed care culture in nursing homes. This video may be viewed at: http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/rl_DSL/NHs/NHfedInfo.htm.

Additional information and handouts from the conference are available on the QIO Quality Partners of Rhode Island web site at www.riqualitypartners.org/st_louis_accord/index.php.

Participant's time was devoted to discussing strategies and methods for implementing person-directed care in nursing homes. Each team of stakeholders was encouraged to develop their own action plan that included strategies to aid in the creation of a statewide person-directed culture change collaborative, responsible for the continued education and promotion of person-directed care within their respective state.

On June 9, 2005, the team of Wisconsin stakeholders, who attended this conference, unanimously agreed to form the Wisconsin Coalition for Person-Directed Care. Representatives from the Bureau of Quality Assurance attended this conference and support this group's efforts to promote person-directed care.

In July 2005, as a follow up to the Accord, the Wisconsin Coalition for Person Directed Care was formed to spearhead the advancement of person directed care concepts and innovations in Wisconsin nursing homes. Membership in the coalition includes representatives from the following organizations or professions:

- Board on Aging and Long Term Care
- Bureau of Quality Assurance
- Directors of Nursing
- Metastar (Wisconsin's Quality Improvement Organization (QIO))
- Nursing Home Administrators
- Service Employees International Union (SEIU)
- Wisconsin Nursing Home Social Workers Association
- Wisconsin Alzheimer's Association, Chapter Network
- Wisconsin Association of Homes and Services for the Aging
- Wisconsin Association of Medical Directors
- Wisconsin Health Care Association
- Wisconsin Representatives of Activity Professionals

In the upcoming months, more information will be provided to facilitate the expansion of person-directed care programs in Wisconsin nursing homes.

Please direct questions regarding this memo to Vicky Griffin, Nursing Consultant at (414) 227-4705.

cc: Wisconsin Person-Directed Care Coalition